ASIA PROJECT SERVICES LTD.,
X
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
JNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
1729

Case No. 07 CIV



Plaintiff,

- against -

### **VERIFIED COMPLAINT**

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## SINOTRANS LIMITED,

Defendant.

SERVICES"), by its attorneys, JUNGE & MELE, LLP, complaining of the Defendant, SINOTRANS LIMITED., (hereinafter "SINOTRANS"), states and alleges the following upon information and belief:

Plaintiff, ASIA PROJECT SERVICES LTD., (hereinafter "ASI

- 1. This is a case of admiralty jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1333(1) and a maritime claim within the meaning of Rules 9(h) and 38(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 2. At all times relevant, Plaintiff, ASIA PROJECT SERVICES, was a foreign corporation with a place of business located at c/o ASIA PROJECT CHARTERING PTE. LTD., 70 SHENTON WAY, #14-01 MARINA HOUSE, SINGAPORE 079118, the disponent owner of the vessel *KLAZINA C*.
- 3. At all times relevant, Defendant, **SINOTRANS**, was foreign business corporation, with a place of business located at RM 1301. SINOTRANS PLAZA, A43 XIZHIMEN, BEIDAJIE, BEIJING 100044, P.R. CHINA, and is not present within this

District, or any nearby district, pursuant to Rule B(1) of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

- 4. At all material times, Plaintiff, as disponent owner, entered into a Booking Note, dated at Singapore on March 14, 2007, with Defendant for the ocean transportation of 1,000 cubic meters of cargo believed to be "71 packages of screwfeeder charge car" from Shanghai, P.R. China, to Rio de Janiero, Brazil, pursuant to freight and detention/demurrage charges as stated therein, a true copy of which are annexed hereto as Exhibit "1."
- 5. Thereafter, Plaintiff employed the said vessel in ocean commerce and abided by the terms and conditions of the said Booking Note; however, between March 30, 2007 and April 5, 2007, while said Booking Note was still in effect, without any fault or neglect by Plaintiff contributing thereto, the said vessel was delayed and detained at the load port of Shanghai in excess of the allowed port time to load said cargo, and as a result, Defendant accrued detention charges of US\$ 84,996.53, based on the daily detention rate of US\$ 17,500, as set forth in said Booking Note.
- 6. Under the terms of Clause 4 of the governing Booking Note between Plaintiff and Defendant, disputes between the parties are to resolved exclusively in the High Court of Justice, London, with English law to apply.
- 7. Plaintiff expects to recover the amount of US\$ 84,996.53, in the legal action in London, on the principal claim for detention; in addition, Plaintiff expects to recover accrued interest and defense costs through the end of said litigation, in an amount yet to

be determined; and as such, Plaintiff anticipates a total award amount of \$100,000, as best as same can now be estimated.

- 8. Defendant cannot be found within this District within the meaning of Rule B of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, but Defendant is believed to have or will have during the pendency of this action, assets within this District consisting of cash, funds, freight, hire, or credits including but not limited to electronic fund transfers in the hands of garnishees in this District, including but not limited to the following:
  - 1. Bank of China
  - 2. HSBC (USA) Bank
  - 3. Bank of New York
  - 4. Barclay's Bank
  - 5. JPMorgan Chase Bank
  - 6. Wachovia Bank
  - 7. Bank of America, N.A.
  - 8. BNP Paribas
  - 9. Citibank, N.A.
  - 10. Standard Chartered Bank
  - 11. UBS, A.G.
  - 12. American Express Bank

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for the following relief:

- That process in due form of law according to the practice of this Court be issued against Defendant and that Defendant be cited to appear and answer the allegations herein;
- 2. That, since Defendant cannot be found within this District pursuant to Rule B of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims, this Court issue an Order directing the Clerk of Court to issue Process of Maritime Attachment and Garnishment pursuant to Rule B of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims, attaching all of the Defendant's tangible or intangible property or any other funds held by garnishees including but not limited to the aforementioned garnishees in the District which are due and owing or otherwise the property of Defendant up to the amount of \$100,000.00, to secure Plaintiff's claims, and that all persons claiming any interest in the same be cited to appear and pursuant to Supplemental Admiralty Rule B answer the matters alleged in this Verified Complaint.
- 3. That such property attached pursuant to the Processes of Maritime

  Attachment and Garnishment remain sequestered to serve as security for the payment of

  Plaintiff's claims as they may be embodied in any award issued out of the High Court of

  Justice in London.
- 4. That Plaintiff have such other and further and different relief as may be just and proper, including judgment against Defendant, along with interest, costs and disbursements as allowable under law.

Dated in the City of New York on October 3, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

JUNGE & MELE, LLP Attorneys for Plaintiff

Peter A. Junge (PJ-0745)

29 Broadway

New York, NY 10006

(212) 269-0061

## **VERIFICATION**

#### PETER A. JUNGE declares as follows:

- I am a member of the bar of this Honorable Court and of the firm of Junge
   & Mele, LLP, attorneys for Plaintiff.
- 2. I have read the foregoing Complaint and I believe the contents thereof are true.
- 3. The reason this Verification is made by deponent and not be Plaintiff is that Plaintiff is a foreign corporation, no officers or directors of whom are within this jurisdiction.
- 4. The sources of my information and belief are documents provided to me and statements made to me by Plaintiff.
- I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.
   Dated in the City of New York on October 3, 2007

Peter A lunge

# EXHIBIT "1"

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#### BOOKING NOTE

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